newsitem captioned "West Bengal tops in custodial deaths" as reported in The Hindustan Times dated 10th November, 1996;

(b) if so, whether the National Human Rights Commission have conducted any survey to find out the exact number of custodial deaths in each of the State during the past one year;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the mechanism Government propose to formulate to check such deaths?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) There is no such news item in the Hindustan Times dated 10-11-1996. However, the Government has seen the news-item captioned "West Bengal tops in custodial deaths" appearing in the Hindustan Times dated 01.11.1996.

(b) and (c) National Human Rights Commission has not conducted any survey on the custodial deaths in different States during the past one year, but has been receiving reports from DMs/SPs on incidents of custodial death, in pursuance of instructions issued by it in December, 1993.

(d) Although 'Police' is a State subject, the Government of India have issued instructions/guidelines to the State Government regarding measures to prevent custodial crimes. Detailed guidelines have been circulated from time to time to the State Government and Union Territories regarding measures to prevent the use of questionable and coercive methods by the Police during investigations. While drawing attention to the legal safeguards, State Governments have been requested to bring to the notice of the Police Officers, the instructions contained in the Police Manual of different States regarding prohibiting or restricting use of force by the Police while effecting arrests, interrogating suspects or during any other stage of police enquiry or investigation. It was emphasised that Police personnel -found guilty of using third degree method would render themselves liable to exemplary punishment. It has also emphasised that senior officers should continuously guide investigating officers during inspections and meetings and impress upon them the need for adopting correct and prescribed methods of investigation. Apart from specific guidelines, State Governments have been advised that there is a necessity to bring about qualitative change in the approach *and behaviour of the police towards the general public. Human Rights as a subject has been introduced in the curricula of several Police Training Institutes, including the premier training Institute for IJPS Officers *viz.,* the National Police Academy, Hyderabad. Based on the recommendation of the National Human Rights Commission, the Government has prepared a three tier training syllabus for the police and paramilitary forces officers and circulated to the State Governments and CPMFs for implementation.

Ambulance Services on National Highways in Andhra Pradesh

2816. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any specific request or suggestion to make available ambulances for use on the National Highways in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether Government will examine such suggestions;

(c) the role of the concerned agencies of Government in this regard;

(d) whether the National Highways Authority of India has any plans for safety enhancement;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T., G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A proposal to give financial assistance for purchase of one crane and ambulance under the National Highway Patrolling Scheme to the State Government of Andhra Pradesh during the current financial year is under process. Ambulance and crane are not provided on individual request.

(d) to (f) The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has been entrusted with the work relating to improvement of some sections of National Highway No. 5 and 9 in Andhra Pradesh under loan asistance of Asian Development Bank. The NHAI is yet to evolve plans for safety enhancement of National Highways in Andhra Pradesh.

Waiting list of Telephones in Kakinada in Andhra Pradesh

2817. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the present capacity of the telephone exchanges in Kakinada town in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the number of phones presently working in Kakinada, East Godavari district in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) the waiting list for phones in Kakinada presently; and

(d) by when this waiting list is likely be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERM A): (a) The present capacity of telephone exchanges in Kakinada town in Andhra Pradesh is 13,780 lines (as on 30.11.96).

(b) The number of phones working in Kakinada , East Godavari district is 12.581 as on 30.11.96.

(c) The waiting list for phone in Kakinada is 1,848 as on 30.11.96.

(d) The above waiting list is likely to be cleared by 1997-98.

बम विस्फोट की घटनाएं

2818. श्री नागमणि:
श्री ईश दत्त यादव:

क्या गृह मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) पिछले दो वर्षों के दौरान किन-किन स्थानों पर बम विस्फोट की घटनाएं हुई तथा इन दुर्घटनाओं में कितने व्यक्ति मारे गए;

(ख) अब तक गिरफ्तार किये गये व्यक्तियों की घटना-वार संख्या कितनी-कितनी है तथा ये व्यक्ति किन-किन संगठनों से सम्बद्ध थे; और

(ग) सरकार द्वारा इन घटनाओं को रोकने के लिए क्या-क्या प्रयास किये गये है?

गृह मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मोहम्मद फकरूल हार): (क) से (ग) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सभा के पटल पर रख दी जाएगी।

राज्यों में हिन्दू अल्पसंख्यकों की सुरक्षा हेतु पृथक योजना

2819. श्री दिलीप सिंह जूदेव: क्या गृह मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) देश में उन राज्यों के नाम क्या-क्या हैं, जहां हिन्दू धर्मावलम्बी अल्प संख्या में हैं; और

(ख) क्या संबंधित राज्य सरकारों ने वहां के इन अल्पसंख्यक हिन्दुओं की सुरक्षा तथा विकास हेतु अलग से कोई योजना बनाई है तथा उसे कार्यान्वित किया है, यदि हां, तो इन योजनाओं का राज्य-वार ब्यौरा क्या है?

गृह मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मोहम्मद फकरूल हार): (क) वे राज्य हैं:—अरूणाचल प्रदेश, जम्मू और कश्मीर, मेघालय, मिजोरम, नागालैंड और पंजाब।

(ख) केन्द्रीय सरकार के पास ऐसी कोई जानकारी नहीं है क्योंकि यह विषय राज्य सरकारों के अधिकार क्षेत्र में आता है।